

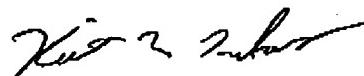
REMARKS

This is intended as a full and complete response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated September 17, 2004, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on October 18, 2004. Please reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below.

Claims 15-31 remain pending in the application and are shown above. In an office communication dated May 28, 2004, the Examiner indicated that mis-numbered claim 32 would be re-numbered claim 31. The Applicant accepted the Examiners change in claim numbering and a response was offered in a paper filed on August 27, 2004. While the remarks traversing rejections in that response reflected the change in claim numbering, the Applicant failed to include the change in the listing of claims in that response. Claim 31 is now properly numbered in this response. Applicants submit that no new matter has been added.

Having addressed all issues set out in the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that the claims be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,



Keith M. Tackett
Registration No. 32,008
MOSER, PATTERSON & SHERIDAN, L.L.P.
3040 Post Oak Blvd. Suite 1500
Houston, TX 77056
Telephone: (713) 623-4844
Facsimile: (713) 623-4846
Agent for Applicant(s)